

Remarks

Applicant has cancelled claim 32 and amended claim 31. Claims 1-11, 17-18, 24-31 and 33-35 are currently pending.

In the Office Action mailed October 27, 2003, a Restriction Requirement was set forth between two groups of inventions identified by the Examiner and outlined below:

Group I Claims 1-11, 17-18 and 24-30 (drawn to a combination dump trailer).

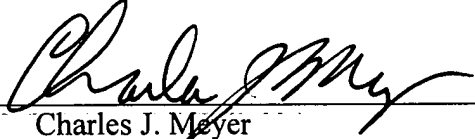
Group II Claims 31-35 (drawn to a method of unloading a vehicle).

In addition, the Examiner required a species-type election be made of a single species of the claimed invention between Figure 4 and Figure 6.

In response to the above-mentioned restriction requirement, the Applicant hereby elects the Group I invention for prosecution without traversal. Applicant notes the Examiner's argument that the inventions are distinct with the argument that one group does not require at least a hinge arm. Applicant has amended Claim 31 to specifically recite a hinge arm and submits that the amended Claim 31 and its dependent claims fall within class I. Further, Applicant elects without traversal the species shown in Figure 4. It is believed that all pending claims read on the elected species. Claims for the non-elected groups have been cancelled or amended from their original form without prejudice to their consideration in a continuing or divisional application. These amendments are not made for purposes of patentability.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is requested to pass the case to issue. If the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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